

Our Stewardship of the Means of Grace:

Worship: 306 **Communion:** 164
Advent: 210 (144, 66)
Bible Study: 82 (6, 2, 42, 9, 5, 9, 9) **Youth Study:** 14

Sunday	10:00 a.m.	Sunday School
	10:10 p.m.	Church Band, school basement
	7:00 p.m.	His Word—My Life Class, church
Monday	7:00 a.m.	His Word—My Life Class, Crossroads Café
	7:00 p.m.	Youth Group Bible Study, school commons
	7:30 p.m.	Christmas for Kids Workers Meeting, school
Tuesday	2:00 p.m.	Bible Class, church basement
Wednesday	4:30 p.m.	Confirmation Class
	5:30 p.m.	Bible History Class
	8:00 p.m.	Choir
Thursday	11:00 a.m.	Advent Midweek Worship
	12:00 p.m.	Soup Supper, church basement
	6:30 p.m.	Soup Supper, church basement
	7:30 p.m.	Advent Midweek Worship
	8:30 p.m.	Adult Christ-Light Bible Study, church
Sunday	8:00 a.m.	Adult Christ-Light Bible Study, church
	9:00 a.m.	Worship

Affirmation of Baptism This morning we will have the public recognition of the private baptism of Josiah Corey McNeill. Josiah was born and baptized on Sunday, November 4, 2007. Josiah is the son of Jaimie McNeill. Please remember this family in your prayers.

Baptism This morning Venna Rose Van De Walle, the daughter of Adam and Laura Van De Walle, will be baptized. Venna was born on Friday, December 4, 2007. Please remember this new Christian and her family in prayer.

His Word—My Life will continue our study of Ecclesiastes, *Nowhere Man*, this week. Join us as we compare life with God to life under the sun. We meet Sunday at 7:00 p.m. at church and Monday at 7:00 a.m. at the Café. We will not meet on Sunday, December 23 or Monday December 24.

Christmas for Kids Workers Meeting will be Monday at 7:30 p.m. in the school commons. Everyone who is helping for Christmas for Kids should join us for this 45 minute meeting.

Tuesday Bible Class will begin a new study from the Fifth Pew From the Front series this week. Our new study will look at how we can share our faith. Join us Tuesday at 2:00 p.m. Children are welcome. Attend the class before you pick up your children at school.

Advent Necessities is the theme of our special midweek advent worship. This week we will see how *Jesus' Return* is a necessity of Advent. We

invite all of you to join us and bring a friend to worship the Lord. We will worship on Thursdays at 11:00 a.m. and 7:30 p.m. Soup and Sandwich meals will be served at noon and at 6:30 p.m. If you would like to help make soup, make bars, or help serve the meal, please speak with Paula Ott (864-2348). Thanks for your help!

Adult Christ Light Class will study *The Fall and the Promise*. We meet in the basement after worship on Thursday and Sunday at 8:00 a.m.

Christmas for Kids will be December 22, 9:00 a.m.–1:00 p.m. In order to make this day a success we need help! Please sign up on the sheets in the basement if you would like to help or donate food. Thanks!

Choir and Band Concert will be next Sunday. Everyone is invited to bring food to serve after worship in the church basement.

Children's Christmas Program will be on Monday, December 24 at 9:00 a.m. and 7:00 p.m.

Christmas Candlelight Worship will be on Monday, December 24 at 11:00 p.m.

Christmas Festival Worship will be on Tuesday, December 25 at 9:00 a.m. Communion will be a part of worship.

New Year's Eve Worship will be on Monday, December 31 at 7:30 p.m. Communion will be a part of worship.

New Year's Day Worship will be on Tuesday, January 1 at 9:00 a.m. Communion will be a part of worship.

Questions/Comments about our congregation may be directed to:

Pastor Randy Ott	864-2348
Principal Brian Humann	864-2349
President Dennis Griepentrog	864-2539
Board of Elders: Melvin Zeamer	864-2536
Board of Education: Jack Van Iten	864-7399

School Faculty: Brenda Kuchenbecker, Katie Muchka, Joan Wegner, Brian Humann, Rick Muchka

Today's Organist: Jackie Zeamer

Website: www.mzluth.org

Synod Website: www.wels.net

Custodian: Beverly Leiterman 864-2355

Church and School Secretary: Nancy Pantzlaff 864-7334

Wisconsin Lutheran Child and Family Service (WELS counseling)
Kathleen Jasman, Administrator, Appleton 731-9798

Living Hope Counseling Ministries (WELS counseling)
Dr. John Johnson, Director, De Pere 338-8699

3rd Sunday of Advent
December 16, 2007



Prayer before worship

Lord, you came in time to save me. Bless me as you come to me today in Word and Sacrament. Amen.

Lessons are on the back cover

Service

Baptism
GR (handout)
Word (p. 40)

Hymns

300
GR
14
18
321

Prayer of the Day

Hear our prayers, Lord Jesus Christ, and come with the good news of your mighty deliverance. Drive the darkness from our hearts and fill us with your light for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Psalm of the Day

Psalm 146 (p. 114)

Sermon: Matthew 11:2-11

Elusive Expectations

Expecting Christ to fit our agenda
Expecting easy messages

3rd Sunday of Advent: Series A

The coming of Christ in history and his return at the end of time proclaim the good news of God's mighty deliverance.

First Lesson: Isaiah 35:1-10

The desert and the parched land will be glad;
the wilderness will rejoice and blossom.
Like the crocus, it will burst into bloom;
it will rejoice greatly and shout for joy.
The glory of Lebanon will be given to it,
the splendor of Carmel and Sharon;
they will see the glory of the LORD,
the splendor of our God.

Strengthen the feeble hands,
steady the knees that give way;
say to those with fearful hearts,
"Be strong, do not fear;
your God will come,
he will come with vengeance;
with divine retribution
he will come to save you."

Then will the eyes of the blind be opened
and the ears of the deaf unstopped.
Then will the lame leap like a deer,
and the mute tongue shout for joy.
Water will gush forth in the wilderness
and streams in the desert.

The burning sand will become a pool,
the thirsty ground bubbling springs.
In the haunts where jackals once lay,
grass and reeds and papyrus will grow.

And a highway will be there;
it will be called the Way of Holiness.
The unclean will not journey on it;
it will be for those who walk in that Way;
wicked fools will not go about on it.

No lion will be there,
nor will any ferocious beast get up on it;
they will not be found there.

But only the redeemed will walk there,
and the ransomed of the LORD will return.

They will enter Zion with singing;
everlasting joy will crown their heads.
Gladness and joy will overtake them,
and sorrow and sighing will flee away.

Psalm of the Day: Psalm 146 (p. 114)

Second Lesson: James 5:7-11

Be patient, then, brothers, until the Lord's coming. See how the farmer waits for the land to yield its valuable crop and how patient he is for the autumn and spring rains. You too, be patient and stand firm, because the Lord's coming is near. Don't grumble against each other, brothers, or you will be judged. The Judge is standing at the door!

Brothers, as an example of patience in the face of suffering, take the prophets who spoke in the name of the Lord. As you know, we consider blessed those who have persevered. You have heard of Job's perseverance and have seen what the Lord finally brought about. The Lord is full of compassion and mercy.

Gospel: Matthew 11:2-11

When John heard in prison what Christ was doing, he sent his disciples to ask him, "Are you the one who was to come, or should we expect someone else?"

Jesus replied, "Go back and report to John what you hear and see: The blind receive sight, the lame walk, those who have leprosy are cured, the deaf hear, the dead are raised, and the good news is preached to the poor. Blessed is the man who does not fall away on account of me."

As John's disciples were leaving, Jesus began to speak to the crowd about John: "What did you go out into the desert to see? A reed swayed by the wind? If not, what did you go out to see? A man dressed in fine clothes? No, those who wear fine clothes are in kings' palaces. Then what did you go out to see? A prophet? Yes, I tell you, and more than a prophet. This is the one about whom it is written:

" 'I will send my messenger ahead of you,
who will prepare your way before you.'

I tell you the truth: Among those born of women there has not risen anyone greater than John the Baptist; yet he who is least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he.

Morrison Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church

Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod

Glorifying God as we Grow in the Gospel and Go with the Gospel

“ARE YOU THE ONE WHO IS TO COME,



OR ARE WE TO WAIT FOR ANOTHER?”

Matthew 11:3

Welcome! We thank God that you have joined us at worship today. Please sign our guest book near the double door entrance. Restrooms are in the basement near the double stairs.

Today we gather together in the very presence of God. He is present among us in a special way through his Word and Sacrament. We humbly acknowledge our sin and rejoice in the good news of forgiveness through the life and death of Christ. This is the focus of all of our worship.